



Happy 2024!

from Plan International Romania



Children from Ukraine at an education centre in a Romanian school in Constanța, through our project with our partner Jesuit Refugee Services. © Plan International

Who we are

We strive to advance children's rights and equality for girls all over the world.

As an independent development and humanitarian organisation, we work alongside children, young people, our supporters and partners to tackle the root causes of the challenges facing girls and all vulnerable children.

We support children's rights from birth until they reach adulthood and enable children to prepare for and respond to crises and adversity. We drive changes in practice and policy at local, national and global levels using our reach, experience and knowledge. For over 80 years we have been building powerful

partnerships for children, and we are active in over 75 countries.

Plan International started working in Romania in March 2022, supporting local civil society organisations to respond to the refugees entering Romania from Ukraine.

We are continuing this support for refugees as well as expanding our work to include direct programming, research and advocacy in the areas of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), gender equality, youth empowerment, gender based violence (GBV), education, and mental health/psychosocial support (MHPSS).

Dear Friends,

We at Plan International Romania want to wish you a happy and prosperous 2024!

We would like to share with you some of our achievements from last year, as well as exciting future plans.

We hope to get a chance to work with you or meet you at some point during the year.



Young people playing sports in the park with our partner National Youth Foundation. © Plan International

Plan International Romania Highlights 2023



Viktoriia, living in Bucharest with her two children, signing for receipt of cash vouchers from our partner ADRA. © Plan International / George Calin

Direct assistance to refugees and host communities

Working through our partner Jesuit Refugee Services, we opened up a Ukrainian speaking early childhood education centre in Bucharest for 63 Ukrainian children, which provided children with a safe place to play and learn, and with parents with the ability to seek employment or receive support services. The team also provided vouchers during the winter season to purchase warm clothing and other essentials.

ADRA also provided mental health and psychosocial support for both adults and children in Brasov, Tulcea, Suceava, Maramures and Bucharest.

Through our partner National Youth Foundation (Fundatia Națională de Tineret) we provided safe spaces and non-formal education activities to both Romanian and Ukrainian youth. Youth also participated in social cohesion activities such as campaigns against hate speech. Refugee youth were provided with group and individual psychosocial support in order to better cope with their difficult circumstances.

We have also supported JRS to provide Romanian language lessons for students, support for Ukrainian children in schools, and the opening of official Education Hubs with Ukrainian teachers in Romanian schools throughout the country.

Working through our partner ADRA, we provided voucher assistance for food and other basic essentials such as winter coats, hygiene products and children's clothing to 489 Ukrainian refugees.



Drama rehearsal at our partner National Youth Foundation's youth centre in Bucharest. © Plan International



Boy from Ukraine at an education centre in a Romanian school in Constanța, through our project with Jesuit Refugee Services. © Plan International

Children from Ukraine attended more than 10 education centres through our project with Jesuit Refugee Services: in Bucharest, Constanța, Brăila and Galați.

Research and advocacy



You can read our youth consultations research at plan-international.org/publications/young-people-on-the-war-in-ukraine/

Youth Consultations

Between April and May 2023, 200 young people impacted by the war in Ukraine, either still within the country or who have fled to Moldova, Poland or Romania, volunteered their time to participate in youth consultations undertaken by Plan International. They shared their priorities and views on Ukraine's reconstruction and recovery.

Across all the 22 focus groups, young people impacted by the war in Ukraine spoke of wanting to be actively engaged in their country's reconstruction and recovery to bring new ideas, innovative thinking and accountability to the future of Ukraine. This policy paper summarised the key discussions from these consultations, including 53 youth participants from Romania.



Youth consultations with young people at our partner National Youth Foundation's centre. © Plan International



I think 95% of young people are not ok with their feelings ... I haven't seen my family in over a year and I am here alone

18-year-old refugee from Kherson, living in Romania

SRHR Consultation and Research

Plan International Romania is conducting Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Research in consultation with key Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), supported by funding from Plan Australia through the DFAT Australia Humanitarian Partnership (AHP).

The aim of this research is to identify the current SRHR landscape for adolescents, girls and marginalised groups, to explore strategies to strengthen public health and education systems and to effectively address the needs in rural communities

Plan held a consultation with 10 civil society stakeholders, including Asociatia Anais, Centrul Filia, Youth for Youth, Girl Up Romania, Asociatia SECS, The National Foundation for Youth, Asociatia Moaselor Independente, Asociatia Pe Stop, The National Council for Refugees, and Asociatia Sexul vs Barza.

Together, we're taking a significant step toward advocating for improved sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls in Romania. The final report will be launched in early 2024.

Adolescent Girls in Crisis

Adolescent Girls in Crisis (AGiC) is a new study from the Plan International global hub 'Girls in Crisis' series, focused on the situation of adolescent girls affected by the conflict inside Ukraine and those now seeking refuge in Romania and Poland.

The AGiC framework captured how adolescent girls and youth navigate protracted crisis and build resilience individually and through support networks. The research also looked into ways that adolescent girls' voices could be further amplified and included in humanitarian response and potential early recovery efforts, as well as the resilience of girls and enabling factors for change. The final report will be launched in early 2024.

Spotlight on new partners

We are excited to be working with several new partners in 2024!



Above: Our new partner ROUA, based in Baia Mare. © Plan International

Below: Plan Romania on a women's safety march in cooperation with Centrul Filia. © Plan International

ROUA: Baia Mare

ROUA is a women-led community centre based in Baia Mare, Maramures which was established as a result of the influx of Ukrainian refugees into the region. Through Plan Romania, ROUA offers psychosocial support for women, youth activities, drop-in childcare for parents so that they can attend support services, as well as basic needs provision of items such as food packages and hygiene kits for vulnerable families.

Carousel: Bucharest

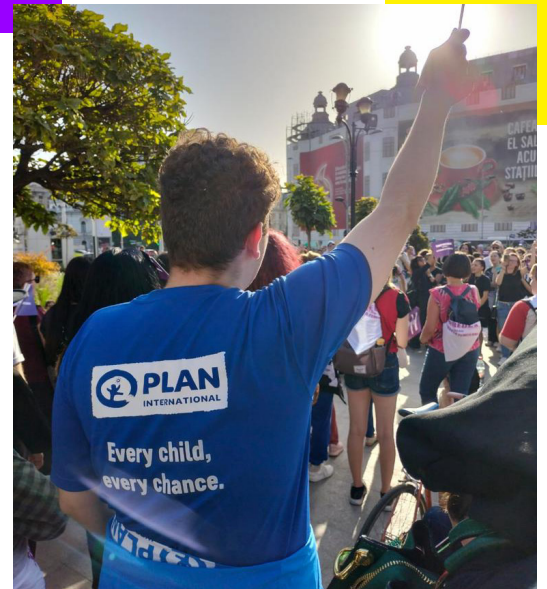
Carousel is a group of Bucharest-based activists who offer social and medical services to individuals facing extreme vulnerability. Carousel is currently running a shelter for 40 Ukrainian refugees, and serves over 800 refugees and other vulnerable people in and around Bucharest. Plan is working through Carousel to provide mental health and psychosocial support services to adults and children, and formal and non-formal education and recreation opportunities for Ukrainian children. They also provide social services, food and hygiene packages to their clients both in the shelter and in the community.

Centrul Filia: Bucharest

Centrul Filia is a feminist organisation amplifying women's voices through community engagement, advocacy, activism, awareness activities, and research. Through Plan Romania, Filia is conducting outreach to vulnerable women in Roma communities, offering them support services for prevention and case management of gender-based violence issues. Plan Romania also sponsored Filia's engagement in an activist march on October 2023 to demand action by Parliament on issues of violence against women.

AMI (Asociația Moașelor Independente): Bucharest

AMI empowers women and families in Romania through comprehensive health services, medical support for vulnerable populations, and advocacy for reproductive rights. Through Plan Romania, AMI has opened a confidential and accessible helpline platform for young people to get information and support about their sexual and reproductive health, counselling for gender-based violence, and even access to telemedicine.



Asociația Anais: Bucharest

Anais supports the rights of women, children, and youth, with a primary focus on supporting victims of domestic violence through service development and advocacy for policy changes. Through Plan Romania, Anais is offering counselling and legal services to survivors of Intimate Partner Violence and sexual abuse. In addition to their work with Romanian survivors, the centre provides specific support and case management for Ukrainian and Third Country Nationals who need additional assistance navigating the Romanian legal, judicial and health systems.



Children from Ukraine at an education centre in Constanța, through our project with Jesuit Refugee Services. © Plan International

Call for expression of interest for partnership opportunities with Plan International Romania

Our ambition is for: “All girls standing strong creating global change” through addressing the root causes of rights violations and inequalities.

We strive to advance children’s rights and equality for girls all over the world. As an independent development and humanitarian organisation, we work alongside children, young people, our supporters, and partners to tackle the root causes of the challenges facing girls and all vulnerable children.

Plan International Romania started operating in Romania in March 2022 to provide humanitarian assistance to the increased number of refugees arriving from Ukraine.

Through a localised partner-led approach, we focus on the key issues faced by the most vulnerable children, especially girls, among refugee and host communities.

Plan International Romania works in Education, Child Protection, Sexual Reproductive Health, and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support.

This call for expression of interest is open for all types of organisations: Romanian national NGOs, local Civil Society Actors, Community-based organizations, youth groups, networks, and volunteer groups, etc.

Plan International Romania is looking for partners to:

- Co-create projects and implement activities
- Join forces on campaigning (e.g., International Day of the Girl)
- Conduct research (e.g., gender, education, protection).

Interested? Fill in this [FORM](#) by January 31, 2024.

Our team will review the expressions of interest and will reach out to the selected applicants to explore partnership options.

For any questions or inquiries, do not hesitate to contact Romania.office@plan-international.org.

Thank you!

Plan International Romania

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